

Serial No. 10/748,084

Atty. Docket 30882/MEY5103

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. -- 29. (canceled)

30. (amended) A material comprising a ceramic formed from a bimodal oxide powder according to Claim 14 comprising

(a) a first metal oxide powder; and

(b) a second, nanoscale metal oxide powder,

wherein

the first metal oxide powder (a) has a d_{50} value of 0.2 μm to 12 μm ;

the second nanoscale metal oxide powder (b) has a d_{50} value ranging from 10 nm to 300 nm;

the size ratio of the d_{50} values of (a) to (b) lies between 12.4 and 40 to 1; and

the quantity ratio of (a) to (b) is from 0.1 : 99.9 to 99.9 : 0.1.

31. (canceled)

32. (amended) A dental material or dental product comprising a ceramic according to Claim 14 made of metal oxide powder with a bimodal particle size distribution made from a bimodal metal oxide powder comprising

(a) a first metal oxide powder with a d_{50} value of 0.2 μm to 12 μm and

(b) a second, nanoscale metal oxide powder with a d_{50} value of 10 nm to 300 nm,

wherein the size ratio of the d_{50} values of (a) to (b) lies at a maximum of 40 to 1 and the quantity ratio of (a) to (b) is from 0.1 : 99.9 to 99.9 : 0.1.

33. (new) The dental product of claim 32, wherein the size ratio of the d_{50} value of (a) to (b) lies between 12.4 and 40 to 1.

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34. (new) A method comprising the step of forming a dental product from a ceramic made of metal oxide powder with a bimodal particle size distribution made from a bimodal metal oxide powder comprising

(a) a first metal oxide powder with a d_{50} value of 0.2 μm to 12 μm and

(b) a second nanoscale metal oxide powder with a d_{50} value of 10 nm to 300 nm,

wherein the size ratio of the d_{50} value of (a) to (b) lies at a maximum of 40 to 1 and the quantity ratio of (a) to (b) is from 0.1 : 99.9 to 99.9 : 0.1.

35. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the size ratio of the d_{50} value of (a) to (b) lies between 12.4 and 40 to 1.